

读短文巧阅读

Short Readings for
Improving Skills in Answering
Questions

袁敬祥 著 By K. C. Yuen



Like humans, gorillas frown when annoyed.



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责任编辑:张 晶
责任校对:黄小波
封面设计:郭 川
漫画绘制:杨志强
责任印制:李 平

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作者 袁敬祥
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引进版序

《实用英语技巧系列》到底是一套阅读教材呢，抑或是一套语法书？作为这套书简体版的出版者，我们只能说《实用英语技巧系列》既非此非彼，又是此是彼。

阅读在英语学习中起着举足轻重的作用。的确，通过这种方法获得的知识不易遗忘。这套书让读者在生动活泼的语言环境中接触英语、熟悉常见的语言现象，并且能够运用这些语言知识，还这些鲜活的语言现象以本来面目。

《实用英语技巧系列》采取深入浅出的讲解、编排精巧的练习，让读者在轻松愉悦的阅读过程中掌握英语学习技巧——恰当运用时态、限定词，娴熟运用六种阅读技巧，掌握常用单词，扩大词汇量，善于发现常见错误并改正错误。

每篇文章只需不到两分钟就可读完，但是读者自然会发现这些小短文对他们的英文写作能力的提高也会产生意想不到的效果！

这套丛书乃我社从中华书局（香港）引进，在香港已重印多次。作者袁敬祥（K. C. Yuen）先生是香港资深英语教师，相信在他的引领下，读者能够更有信心地迎接各种考试，提高英语学习能力。

当然我们相信，除此之外，读者们一定会另有所获：

你知道微波炉的煮食原理吗？你知道怎样煮鸡蛋吗？

如遇火灾怎么办？有人窒息时该如何抢救？

参加应聘面试以后，如果你给主考官发一封感谢信是不是会让你的诚意和交流能力显得与众不同呢？

什么是成功？什么是幸福？……

请在书中寻找答案。

如果读者在掌握了本书介绍的英语学习技巧之后又从此开始感受到阅读的魅力，那么这应该是这套丛书引进的最终目的！

四川大学出版社

2001年8月

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《实用英语技巧系列》总序

本丛书系为具有香港中三至中七程度的读者编写的。

一般而言，在学习非母语时，要有系统地掌握外语很困难，从课本上学习到的基础知识也不容易记住，往往只停留在一般阅读的层面。因此在运用时常常捉襟见肘，甚至束手无策。

通过本丛书的设计和编写，读者可以轻松而有条理地吸收英语知识。通过趣味性的短文阅读，以及作者有重点、有条理的分析，快捷增强运用英语的能力自是指日可待了。

本丛书有以下几个特点：

1. 精选短文多篇，内容浅易又有趣味。
2. 重点归纳介绍短文中使用的各种语法、词类、词汇、短语、答问技巧等等，帮助读者掌握学习英语的基本技巧。
3. 设计多种形式、增进学习效果的练习，并附答案。

学习方法：

1. 细心阅读短文和作者的重点提示。
2. 对照短文和作者的分析，思考重点内容在短文中的作用。
3. 最后做练习。

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引 言

要考验一个人的语文能力，最好的方法莫过于进行阅读理解的测验。很多时候，读者会问：为什么别人能比我更深入理解某段文章的意义？为什么别人回答问题的技巧比我纯熟？为什么别人对生字意义的推敲比我准确？要做得比别人好，除了多加练习外，良好的技巧训练是必须的。

本书编排有以下特点：

1. 本书第一部分由浅入深向读者介绍了 6 种阅读技巧，并附有 4 个层次的问题和答案。
2. 练习多样。本书第二部分共收录 15 篇有趣且生活化的短文。每个单元由 1 篇短文和多种练习组成。
3. 每一单元结尾处都用中文简略介绍短文要旨，帮助读者理解短文内容。
4. 全书附有答案。

我们深信通过本书，读者必能在短时间内掌握阅读技巧。

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...Technique 1

Previewing before you read

技巧 Part One

TECHNIQUES

Previewing is a technique that you probably already use. You probably already previewed the chapters in this book. For example, when you flip through a newspaper, you read the table of contents, headlines, and illustrations. This skimming can give you a general idea of what is in the newspaper.

You can preview a new textbook right before looking at over quickly. As you preview, you know the material is organized. Try to make a general outline of what you read. Keeping this mental outline will help you understand the passage easier.

Steps in previewing a passage (预览文章步骤)

1. Note who wrote the passage (注意文章作者)
2. Note what the author's main purpose is (注意文章目的)
3. Read the first and last paragraphs of the passage (利用文章首尾段)
4. Notice any special words or phrases that are repeated or

Part One

TECHNIQUES

...Technique 1:

Previewing before you read

技巧一：预览

Previewing is a reading technique. You have probably already previewed many things that you have read. For example, when you flip through a newspaper, you notice the table of contents, headlines, and illustrations. This information can give you a good idea of what is in the newspaper.

You can preview other written materials by looking it over quickly. As you preview, look at how the material is organized. **Try to make a mental outline of what you read.** Keeping this mental outline in mind will make understanding the passage easier.

» Steps in previewing a passage 预览文章的步骤

1. Note where it begins.
注意文章的起点。
2. Note where the last item related to the passage ends.
注意文章结尾的项目。
3. Read the topic or question that precedes the passage. Use it to focus on important ideas.
利用文章的题目去找寻要点。
4. Notice any words and phrases in the passage that are repeated or

- that are set off by capital letters, italics, or bold type.
注意文章内重复的、大写的、斜体的或粗体的字或词语。

Passage A:

(Items 1 to 3 are based on the following passage)

What was it like to attend New Leaf?

At New Leaf, making us into Americans did not mean cleaning up what made us originally foreign. The teachers greeted us as our parents did, or as close as they could pronounce our names in Spanish or Chinese. No one was ever scolded or punished for speaking in his or her mother tongue outside the classroom. Mars told the class about his mother's down quilt, which she had made in Italy with the fine feathers of a thousand geese. Pit acted out how boys learned of fish in the Philippines. The third grade class was fascinated by the story of my travel on a stagecoach, which nobody had ever seen except in the museum of Sutter's Fort. After a visit to the Crocker Art Gallery and its collection of heroic paintings of the golden age of California, someone showed a silk scroll with a Chinese painting. Miss Klessig herself had a way of expressing wonder over these matters before a class, her eyes wide until they popped slightly. It was easy for me to feel that becoming a proud American, as she said we should, did not mean feeling ashamed of being a Mexican.

1. What was "this matter" (line 13) over which Miss Klessig expressed wonder?
 - a. a field trip taken by the third grade class
 - b. the collection of heroic paintings at the Crocker Art Gallery
 - c. stories and objects from the children's native land

- d. the ways in which the children communicated on the playground
 - e. museum pieces from the golden age of California
2. According to the excerpt, which of the following was true about New Leaf?
- a. Both pride in being an American and ethnic pride was developed.
 - b. Most of the students were from Spain, China, and the Philippines.
 - c. Spanish and Chinese were among the many languages that were taught.
 - d. Students did not insult each other's ethnic backgrounds.
 - e. Miss Klessig often tried to make Mexican students feel ashamed.
3. "New Leaf" (line 1) refers to
- a. a president
 - b. a town
 - c. an elementary school
 - d. a high school
 - e. a teacher

»» Previewing the above passage 预览以上文章

- 1. Note where it begins. (Items 1 to ...)
- 2. Note where the last item related to the passage ends. (Choice 5 of item 3)
- 3. Note that the question that precedes this passage focuses on an important idea in the passage. This question helps you to understand that the passage is about a particular place.
- 4. Glance through the passage quickly and notice the following capitalized words:

New Leaf	Americans	Spanish
Chinese	Mars	Italy
Pit	Philippines	Sutter's Fort
Crocker Art Gallery	California	Miss Klessig
Mexican		

* Notice the variety of nationalities mentioned.

By previewing the passage for just a few moments, you have picked up a lot of information about its contents. The mental notes that you have made will help you to understand the new material when you read it actively, in more detail.

... Technique 2:

Questioning as you read

技巧二：提问

You can use the questioning process when you read in detail the material that you have previewed. You probably already use this technique for some of your reading. For example, as each clue in a mystery story is revealed, you ask yourself what it means. Then you make predictions about how the story will turn out and keep on finding out whether you are right. Therefore, **questioning helps you think about what you are reading.** As you ask each question, you also create a purpose for reading further.

》》 Steps in questioning as you read 提问的步骤

1. Read the topic or the question that precedes the passage again. Look for the answer to that question as you read.

阅读文章前的题目或问题，试找出该问题的答案。

2. Read each item or question that is based on the passage. Put the question in your own words. Look for the answers to the questions as you read.

阅读每一项目或问题，用自己的文字去提问，在阅读时找答案。

3. Whenever an author introduces a new idea, stop and ask why that idea might be important. Predict an answer. Keep reading

to see if your prediction is correct.

就每一新的要点提问，并预测是否正确。

4. When you read something that puzzles you, stop and ask why that information stands out. Again, predict an answer, then keep on reading to see if your prediction is correct.

遇到疑问时，作出提问，预测答案，看看是否正确。

》》 Questioning a specific passage 就特定文章提问

You have already previewed the previous passage and the items based on it. What steps should you apply to this passage as you read it?

1. Read the question in Item 1 of Technique 1. Put the question in your own words to make sure that you understand it. What you have to find from the passage is the “matters” that Miss Klessig found so interesting.
2. Read and reword the question in Item 2. You should read the passage with the question in mind: “Which is the best choice to match what I have learned about New Leaf from the passage?”
3. Read and reword the question in Item 3. You should read with this question in mind: “What is New Leaf?”
4. Read and reword the question that precedes each passage. As you read, keep the question in mind: “What was it like to go to this school?”
5. Start reading the passage. Stop when you can make a prediction about the answer to one of the questions that you are keeping in mind.
6. Continue reading to test your prediction. The reference to the playground supports your idea that “New Leaf” is a school.
7. Consider another question as you read. Your preview showed that several countries, including Italy and the Philippines, are